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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MIDDLEWICH



5. Copies.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1971

by the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
and the
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Divisional Medical Officer,
County Offices,
Watling Street,
NORTHWICH,
Cheshire.

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MIDDLEWICH

R E P O R T

of the

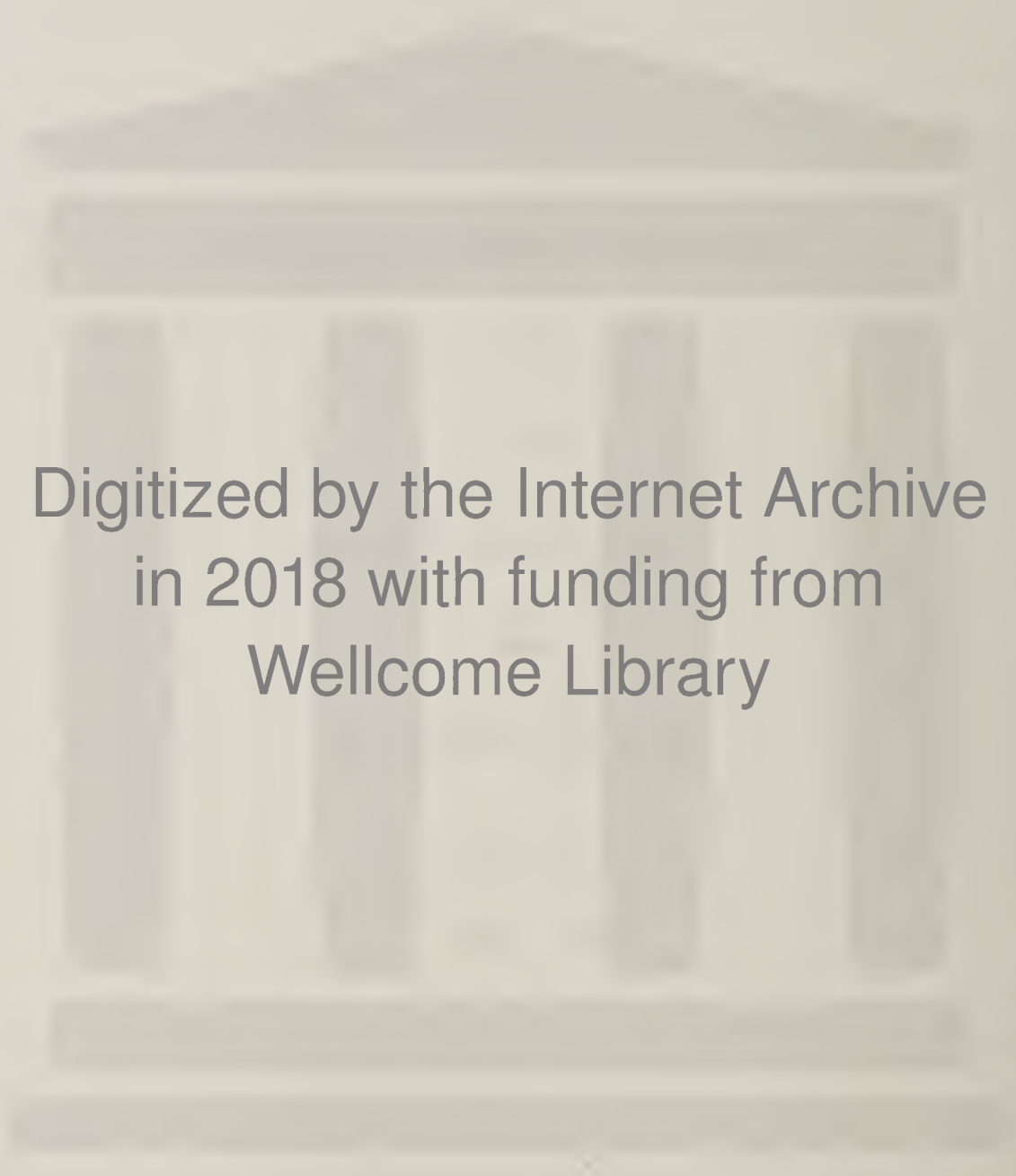
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the

YEAR 1971



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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MIDDLEWICH

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1971

Chairman of the Council : Councillor T. C. Costello

HEALTH AND SEWERAGE COMMITTEE

Chairman: Councillor G. J. F. Stallard J. P.

COUNCILLORS

Councillor F. Bailey	Councillor J. W. Littlemore
Councillor H. Dale	Councillor D. K. Moore
Councillor C. V. Davenport	Councillor J. M. Telfer
Councillor Mrs. H. Davies	Councillor Miss C. L. Tingcombe
Councillor W. Faulkner C.C.	Councillor R. Whiteley

and the above Chairmen

S T A F F

Medical Officer of Health

J. E. O'MALLEY M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Other Appointments: The Medical Officer of Health is also Medical Officer of Health for Northwich Rural District Council, Northwich Urban District Council, Winsford Urban District Council, Runcorn Rural District Council and Runcorn Urban District Council.

and Divisional Medical Officer to the
Mid-Cheshire and Runcorn Divisions

Public Health Inspector

F. Costello

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MIDDLEWICH

Telephone No.:
Northwich 3961

County Offices,
Watling Street,
NORTHWICH,
Cheshire.

September, 1972

To the Chairman and Members of the
Middlewich Urban District Council.

Dear Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

The year has been essentially a period of consolidation with further steps being taken towards functional integration of the three branches of the National Health Service preparatory to the major changes envisaged for 1974.

Visits have been paid to group practices to evaluate the attachment of nursing staff to general practitioner groups. There has been an appraisal of the working of such community care teams and where necessary suggestions made towards improving methods of utilising attached nursing staff.

The Social Service Department is now established and links have been forged between the Officers concerned and Health Department staff. Relations between the two departments are close and this is an essential ingredient in providing total community care.

With regard to The Child Health Service preparations were made for the introduction in the 1st January, 1972 of the integrated Child Health Screening programme with computer call up for appointments. The Divisional staff are greatly involved with this and preparations went ahead in considerable detail. Several of the part-time and sessional doctors together with general practitioners interested in this aspect of medicine attended County courses at Gately Health Centre and Eastham Clinic respectively to familiarise them with screening techniques.

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My thanks are due to Mr. Costello, your Chief Public Health Inspector and his staff for their loyalty and support, to the Clerk and Chief Officers of the Council for their help and advice and to the Chairman and members of the Committee for their constant co-operation.

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Yours Obedient Servant,

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S E C T I O N I

GENERAL AND VITAL STATISTICS

(1) GENERAL STATISTICS

Comparative Statistics - 1970/71

	<u>Year</u>	
	<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>
Population (Estimated)	7,960	7,783
Rateable Value	£320,214	£341,634
Product of Penny Rate (Estimated)	£1,325 (D)	£3,488
Number of inhabited dwellings	2,705	2,689
Area of District (Acres)	1,971	1,971

(2) VITAL STATISTICS

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>England and Wales</u>
Legitimate	58	69	127	
Illegitimate	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>6</u>	
	60	73	133	
Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 population			17.0	
+Corrected Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population (Comparability Factor 1.02)			17.3	16.0
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total births			5.0	
<u>Still Births</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	
	-	4	4	
<u>Infant Deaths</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age	-	1	1	
Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age	-	1	1	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live births			- 8.0	18.0

+ See Page 2.

Maternal Deaths (including abortion) Nil

<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>England and Wales</u>
All Causes	50	37	87	
Death Rate per 1,000 population			11.1	
+Corrected Death Rate per 1,000 population (Comparability Factor 1.19)			13.2	11.6

+NOTE: The corrected birth and death rates are those which are obtained when the crude local rates are adjusted to make allowances for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the local population differs from that for England and Wales. The corrected rates are comparable with the crude rates for England and Wales, and the corresponding adjusted rates for any other area.

Causes of Death

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	1	-	1
2. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	3	-	3
3. Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	2	-	2
4. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	2	-	2
5. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	2	2
6. Other Malignant Neoplasms	-	2	2
7. Diabetes Mellitus	1	-	1
8. Other Diseases of Blood, etc.	-	1	1
9. Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	1	-	1
10. Hypertensive Disease	-	1	1
11. Ischaemic Heart Disease	16	12	28
12. Other Forms of Heart Disease	3	1	4
13. Cerebrovascular Disease	8	9	17
14. Pneumonia	-	2	2
15. Bronchitis and Emphysema	7	-	7
16. Asthma	-	1	1
17. Peptic Ulcer	-	1	1
18. Cirrhosis of Liver	-	2	2
19. Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	-	1	1
20. Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	-	1	1
21. Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	4	1	5
22. Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	-	1
23. Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>
	50	37	87
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

SECTION II

HEALTH SERVICES

(1) Information concerning the statutory and voluntary Health and Welfare Services in the area may be obtained from the Divisional Medical Office, County Offices, Watling Street, Northwich. Telephone number - Northwich 3961.

(2) HOSPITAL FACILITIES

The Middlewich Urban District lies within the area of the Manchester Regional Hospital Board whose offices are at Cheetwood Road, Manchester, 8. Telephone number - Deansgate 7271.

(3) GENERAL PRACTITIONER SERVICES

The District lies within the area of the Cheshire Executive Council, whose offices are at 28 Nicholas Street, Chester. Telephone number - Chester 23158.

(4) AMBULANCE SERVICE

The ambulance service is provided by the County Council and is under radio control from central control at County Hall, Chester. All 999 calls made by members of the public are immediately connected to this central control. The arrangement for non-urgent calls is that the patient or general practitioner should ring the Northwich Depot - Telephone number : Northwich 3355.

SECTION III

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 - 1951

Section 47

Under this Section when persons (a) are suffering from grave chronic disease or, being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions, and (b) are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention, the local authority may apply to a Court of Summary Jurisdiction for an Order to remove the person to a suitable place.

With regard to the expeditious procedure as laid down in the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951, the Medical Officer of Health or any duly qualified person acting for the Medical Officer of Health is authorised by the Council to make the requisite application to a Justice of the Peace.

Section 50

Under this Section the District Council has the duty to arrange for the burial of any person who has died in their area, if no suitable arrangements for the disposal of the body are being made.

It was not necessary to take any action under either of these Sections during the year.

S E C T I O N I V

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

(1) NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The following are the infectious diseases notified for the years 1970 and 1971:

DISEASE	Cases Notified	
	1970	1971
Measles	23	8
Scarlet Fever	-	1

S E C T I O N V

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

(1) WATER SUPPLY

The water is provided by the Mid and South East Cheshire Water Board whose offices are at Weaverham Grange, Hartford, Northwich.

The water supplied to the district was satisfactory in quantity and does not have a plumbo-solvent action. During the year 6 samples were taken by our own Health Department and 23 by the Water Board. All were bacteriologically satisfactory.

There are no dwellinghouses in the district supplied by means of standpipes.

(2) SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The Surveyor reports that during 1971 the temporary pumping station in Sutton Lane gave satisfactory use. Work was continuing very successfully on the third phase of the sewerage and sewage disposal scheme, which comprised the alterations to the Town's sewerage system. This work involved the closure of certain roads, diversions and a general disruption of traffic.

Work continued satisfactorily and up to schedule on phase two of the scheme which comprised the sewage works, and by the end of the year it was known that the works would be commissioned very early in 1972.

Existing Sewers

A duplicate sewer was laid in Brooks Lane to give temporary aid to the sur-charging of the old sewer. This was brought into commission during 1971 and since that time Brooks Lane has flooded on but one occasion. The risk of flooding at this point and also at Wych House Yard and in Sutton Lane before the canal bridge will be ceased upon the commissioning of the Wardle Bridge Pumping Station very early in 1972.

Surface Water Flooding

Concern must continue to be expressed at the sur-charging of the Cledford drain between Alexandra Road and Warmingham Lane and this can only be avoided by the provision of new storm water facilities to the north. Further concern could be expressed at conditions appertaining at the Kinderton Culvert, where this drain passes under Booth Lane and the canal. Adverse conditions could cause a considerable amount of sur-charging at this point. Major drainage works would be required to avert this hazard.

(3) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

There are still 6 pail closets in the district and since they are considerable distances from the sewers they cannot be converted to a water carriage system until the new sewerage scheme is carried out.

(4) REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The Council has a weekly collection of refuse. During the year 219 bins with rubber lids were sold to householders. The Council collects free of charge all surplus and obsolete furniture. Garden and shop refuse is allowed to be tipped free of charge at the Council's tip. An ample supply of soil was available for 'cover' and the tip was maintained free of nuisance.

Collection is by two Karrier dual tipper vehicles with compression plates, one vehicle being a new one replacing a much older one. Salvage is kept separate from refuse and almost 100 tons of paper and rags were sold for £1,023 of which 10% was shared amongst the workmen.

(5) PETROLEUM STORAGE

Seventeen licences were issued for the bulk storage of petroleum. Three tanks ceased to be used and were made safe. The fees amounted to £52. All installations were inspected.

H O U S I N G

PROVISION OF NEW HOUSES

Private Housing

No private housing was undertaken during the year due to the continued lack of sewage facilities and no detailed plans were approved for the commencement of private building.

Council Housing

Work commenced on the erection of 32 one bedroomed flats and 6 two bedroomed bungalows in Queens Drive on the remainder of the land forming Chadwick Fields Estate. When completed these will substantially reduce the number of applicants on the "Waiting List".

Housing Improvements

The purchase of fourteen houses, numbers 40 to 66 Webbs Lane, was completed and work commenced for the modernisation of them. In addition, the Council was preparing a scheme for the modernisation of the pre-war Council Houses to be carried out in three phases.

Housing in General

There is no known overcrowding in the district.

During the year the Council made loans on 28 dwellings under the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958. These loans amounted in total to £39,191. Six standard and eight discretionary grants were made amounting to £3,479. There are only about 130 houses apart from Council Houses which are 'let', the remainder being owner occupied. The average number of persons per house was 2.894.

Slum Clearance

Four houses numbers 55 to 61 Lewin Street, from which the Council had re-housed the occupants, were demolished and the site cleared. Of eleven houses condemned in Croxton Lane, five were still occupied at the end of the year.

Two families still remained to be re-housed from six houses, numbers 18 to 26 Sutton Lane, which had been condemned.

Three houses numbers 10 to 14 Seabank were condemned and two families were re-housed. Two of these dwellings were offered to the Council and arrangements were being made to acquire the third through the District Valuer, with a view to the vacant sites being added to the adjoining Car Park.

Closing Orders were placed on numbers 15 and 19 Wheelock Street, but the tenants had not been re-housed at the year end.

Qualification Certificates - Housing Act, 1969

Three applications were received but only one was granted, the remaining two not possessing the Standard Amenities.

House Letting

The Council has a "Points Scheme" for the selection of tenants for Council dwellings. The list comprised of 85 applicants and it was hoped that with the erection of 32 flats and 6 bungalows in Queens Drive, together with re-lets that in 1972 all families in condemned houses would be re-housed and the "Waiting List" reduced by a half.

No complaints were received from the tenants of private houses regarding defects.

Caravan Sites

There is one site on the outskirts of the district which is licenced in accordance with Model Standards 1960. The area is about three-quarters of an acre and holds nine caravans, all of which have indoor toilets, water supply, drainage and electricity.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no Common Lodging Houses in the district.

Pet Animals Act, 1951

There is one Pet Shop licenced in the district at which it was agreed not to have dogs or cats.

Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964

There are two Dealers Registered under this Act.

Destruction of Rats and Mice

All Business Premises, Farms, and almost one third of dwellings were inspected at least once and treatments given as required. Treatments at Business Premises and Farms are charged for, but private dwellings are treated free of cost.

A test baiting of 15% of all sewer manholes was made and in no cases was there any "take".

Smoke Abatement

One complaint was received during the year and an incinerator was provided to abate any possible nuisance.

Health Precautions

Eighteen enquiries were made in respect of persons returning from Holidays abroad. In all cases we were satisfied they were free from any infections.

S E C T I O N VI

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Part 1 of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspector).

Premises	No. on Register	No. of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Proce- cutions
(i) Factories in which Sections 1.2.3.4. and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	-	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	41	10	1	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises).	4	2	-	-
Total	45	12	1	-

New Industries

An extension to the Salt Warehouse for the British Salt Ltd. was built during the year and a new maintenance Depot off Brooks Lane was opened by E.R.F. Ltd.

Complaints

Complaints were received of an emission of Salt Dust from two factories. In each instance an assurance was given that a new plant would be installed during 1972 to reduce the emission to a minimum.

2. Cases in which defects were found:

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Insp.	By H.M. Insp.	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2.)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3.)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-

OUTWORKERS

There are no outworkers registered with the Authority.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Insp.	By H.M. Insp.	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other Offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	3	3	-	-	-

Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act, 1963

The Act applies to 66 premises, all of which have been registered. A total of 174 persons are employed in these premises, 44 males and 130 females. 17 visits were made in connection with this Act.

SECTION VII

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) MILK

13 Dealers are registered in the district under the Milk and Dairies Regulations.

There are no dairy herds from which the milk is sold raw to the public.

The following tables show the results of tests on samples of milk taken by the County Council.

TABLE I

Type of Test	Taken by C. C.	
	Satis.	Unsatis.
1. Methylene Blue	27	-
2. Phosphatase	10	-
3. Turbidity	6	-

1. Measures the keeping quality of the milk.
2. Measures the efficiency of the Pasteurisation process.
3. Measures the efficiency of the Sterilising process.

(b) ICE-CREAM

No ice-cream is manufactured in the district and the only ice-cream sold is pre-wrapped. 5 samples were taken in the district and submitted to the Chester Public Health Laboratory. These were satisfactory and placed in Provisional Grade as follows:-

Provisional Grade 1 5

(c) MEAT

There are no slaughterhouses in the district.

Condemnation notes were issued in respect of 6 tins of ham and the contents of a deep freezer after a prolonged failure of power. Condemned foods at shops are collected and disposed of at the refuse tip.

Food Premises

The undermentioned food premises are in use in the Middlewich District.

Schedule of premises subject to Regs. 16 & 19 of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Complying with Reg. 16</u>	<u>Reg. 19 Applies</u>	<u>Complying with Reg. 19</u>
Butchers Shop	6	6	6	6
Bakehouses	3	3	3	3
Schools	5	5	5	5
Fish and Chip Shops	3	3	3	3
Grocery Shops	22	22	22	22
Chocolate and Sweets	6	6	-	-
Public Houses	15	15	-	-
Clubs and Licenced Bars	3	3	-	-
Greengrocers	4	4	-	-
Chemist Shops	3	3	-	-

These descriptions only indicate the main type of food sold in each shop.

Registered Under Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955

For retail sale of wrapped ice-cream	22
For retail sale of sausages, meat pies, etc...	15
Dairies registered under Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1959-60	1
Registered Milk Dealers	13

All bakehouses and food premises are regularly inspected and are well maintained.

OTHER FOODS

The County Council Weights and Measures Inspectors took samples of 34 varied articles of food in the Middlewich Urban District during 1971. All the samples were up to standard.

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Medical Officer of Health.

F. COSTELLO,

Public Health Inspector.

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SECTION I

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Area of District (Acres)	1,971	1,971

(2) VITAL STATISTICS

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>England and Wales</u>
Legitimate	58	69	127	
Illegitimate	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>6</u>	
	60	73	133	
Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 population			17.0	
+Corrected Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population (Comparability Factor 1.02)			17.3	16.0
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total births			5.0	
<u>Still Births</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	
	-	4	4	
<u>Infant Deaths</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age	-	1	1	
Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age	-	1	1	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live births			-8.0	18.0

+ See Page 2.

Maternal Deaths (including abortion)	Nil
<u>Deaths</u>		<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>		<u>England and Wales</u>
All Causes	50	37	87			
Death Rate per 1,000 population				11.1		
+Corrected Death Rate per 1,000 population (Comparability Factor 1.19)				13.2	11.6	

+NOTE: The corrected birth and death rates are those which are obtained when the crude local rates are adjusted to make allowances for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the local population differs from that for England and Wales. The corrected rates are comparable with the crude rates for England and Wales, and the corresponding adjusted rates for any other area.

Causes of Death

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	1	-	1
2. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	3	-	3
3. Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	2	-	2
4. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	2	-	2
5. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	2	2
6. Other Malignant Neoplasms	-	2	2
7. Diabetes Mellitus	1	-	1
8. Other Diseases of Blood, etc.	-	1	1
9. Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	1	-	1
10. Hypertensive Disease	-	1	1
11. Ischaemic Heart Disease	16	12	28
12. Other Forms of Heart Disease	3	1	4
13. Cerebrovascular Disease	8	9	17
14. Pneumonia	-	2	2
15. Bronchitis and Emphysema	7	-	7
16. Asthma	-	1	1
17. Peptic Ulcer	-	1	1
18. Cirrhosis of Liver	-	2	2
19. Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	-	1	1
20. Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	-	1	1
21. Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	4	1	5
22. Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	-	1
23. Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>
	50	37	87
	—	—	—

SECTION II

HEALTH SERVICES

(1) Information concerning the statutory and voluntary Health and Welfare Services in the area may be obtained from the Divisional Medical Office, County Offices, Watling Street, Northwich. Telephone number - Northwich 3961.

(2) HOSPITAL FACILITIES

The Middlewich Urban District lies within the area of the Manchester Regional Hospital Board whose offices are at Cheetwood Road, Manchester, 8. Telephone number - Deansgate 7271.

(3) GENERAL PRACTITIONER SERVICES

The District lies within the area of the Cheshire Executive Council, whose offices are at 28 Nicholas Street, Chester. Telephone number - Chester 23158.

(4) AMBULANCE SERVICE

The ambulance service is provided by the County Council and is under radio control from central control at County Hall, Chester. All 999 calls made by members of the public are immediately connected to this central control. The arrangement for non-urgent calls is that the patient or general practitioner should ring the Northwich Depot - Telephone number : Northwich 3355.

SECTION III

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 - 1951

Section 47

Under this Section when persons (a) are suffering from grave chronic disease or, being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions, and (b) are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention, the local authority may apply to a Court of Summary Jurisdiction for an Order to remove the person to a suitable place.

With regard to the expeditious procedure as laid down in the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951, the Medical Officer of Health or any duly qualified person acting for the Medical Officer of Health is authorised by the Council to make the requisite application to a Justice of the Peace.

Section 50

Under this Section the District Council has the duty to arrange for the burial of any person who has died in their area, if no suitable arrangements for the disposal of the body are being made.

It was not necessary to take any action under either of these Sections during the year.

SECTION IV

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

(1) NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The following are the infectious diseases notified for the years 1970 and 1971:

DISEASE	Cases Notified	
	1970	1971
Measles	23	8
Scarlet Fever	-	1

SECTION V

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

(1) WATER SUPPLY

The water is provided by the Mid and South East Cheshire Water Board whose offices are at Weaverham Grange, Hartford, Northwich.

The water supplied to the district was satisfactory in quantity and does not have a plumbo-solvent action. During the year 6 samples were taken by our own Health Department and 23 by the Water Board. All were bacteriologically satisfactory.

There are no dwellinghouses in the district supplied by means of standpipes.

(2) SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The Surveyor reports that during 1971 the temporary pumping station in Sutton Lane gave satisfactory use. Work was continuing very successfully on the third phase of the sewerage and sewage disposal scheme, which comprised the alterations to the Town's sewerage system. This work involved the closure of certain roads, diversions and a general disruption of traffic.

Work continued satisfactorily and up to schedule on phase two of the scheme which comprised the sewage works, and by the end of the year it was known that the works would be commissioned very early in 1972.

Existing Sewers

A duplicate sewer was laid in Brooks Lane to give temporary aid to the sur-charging of the old sewer. This was brought into commission during 1971 and since that time Brooks Lane has flooded on but one occasion. The risk of flooding at this point and also at Wych House Yard and in Sutton Lane before the canal bridge will be ceased upon the commissioning of the Wardle Bridge Pumping Station very early in 1972.

Surface Water Flooding

Concern must continue to be expressed at the sur-charging of the Cledford drain between Alexandra Road and Warringham Lane and this can only be avoided by the provision of new storm water facilities to the north. Further concern could be expressed at conditions appertaining at the Kinderton Culvert, where this drain passes under Booth Lane and the canal. Adverse conditions could cause a considerable amount of sur-charging at this point. Major drainage works would be required to avert this hazard.

(3) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

There are still 6 pail closets in the district and since they are considerable distances from the sewers they cannot be converted to a water carriage system until the new sewerage scheme is carried out.

(4) REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The Council has a weekly collection of refuse. During the year 219 bins with rubber lids were sold to householders. The Council collects free of charge all surplus and obsolete furniture. Garden and shop refuse is allowed to be tipped free of charge at the Council's tip. An ample supply of soil was available for 'cover' and the tip was maintained free of nuisance.

Collection is by two Karrier dual tipper vehicles with compression plates, one vehicle being a new one replacing a much older one. Salvage is kept separate from refuse and almost 100 tons of paper and rags were sold for £1,023 of which 10% was shared amongst the workmen.

(5) PETROLEUM STORAGE

Seventeen licences were issued for the bulk storage of petroleum. Three tanks ceased to be used and were made safe. The fees amounted to £52. All installations were inspected.

H O U S I N G

PROVISION OF NEW HOUSES

Private Housing

No private housing was undertaken during the year due to the continued lack of sewage facilities and no detailed plans were approved for the commencement of private building.

Council Housing

Work commenced on the erection of 32 one bedroomed flats and 6 two bedroomed bungalows in Queens Drive on the remainder of the land forming Chadwick Fields Estate. When completed these will substantially reduce the number of applicants on the "Waiting List".

Housing Improvements

The purchase of fourteen houses, numbers 40 to 66 Webbs Lane, was completed and work commenced for the modernisation of them. In addition, the Council was preparing a scheme for the modernisation of the pre-war Council Houses to be carried out in three phases.

Housing in General

There is no known overcrowding in the district.

During the year the Council made loans on 28 dwellings under the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958. These loans amounted in total to £39,191. Six standard and eight discretionary grants were made amounting to £3,479. There are only about 130 houses apart from Council Houses which are 'let', the remainder being owner occupied. The average number of persons per house was 2.894.

Slum Clearance

Four houses numbers 55 to 61 Lewin Street, from which the Council had re-housed the occupants, were demolished and the site cleared. Of eleven houses condemned in Croxton Lane, five were still occupied at the end of the year.

Two families still remained to be re-housed from six houses, numbers 18 to 26 Sutton Lane, which had been condemned.

Three houses numbers 10 to 14 Seabank were condemned and two families were re-housed. Two of these dwellings were offered to the Council and arrangements were being made to acquire the third through the District Valuer, with a view to the vacant sites being added to the adjoining Car Park.

Closing Orders were placed on numbers 15 and 19 Wheelock Street, but the tenants had not been re-housed at the year end.

Qualification Certificates - Housing Act, 1969

Three applications were received but only one was granted, the remaining two not possessing the Standard Amenities.

House Letting

The Council has a "Points Scheme" for the selection of tenants for Council dwellings. The list comprised of 85 applicants and it was hoped that with the erection of 32 flats and 6 bungalows in Queens Drive, together with re-lets that in 1972 all families in condemned houses would be re-housed and the "Waiting List" reduced by a half.

No complaints were received from the tenants of private houses regarding defects.

Caravan Sites

There is one site on the outskirts of the district which is licenced in accordance with Model Standards 1960. The area is about three-quarters of an acre and holds nine caravans, all of which have indoor toilets, water supply, drainage and electricity.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no Common Lodging Houses in the district.

Pet Animals Act, 1951

There is one Pet Shop licenced in the district at which it was agreed not to have dogs or cats.

Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964

There are two Dealers Registered under this Act.

Destruction of Rats and Mice

All Business Premises, Farms and almost one third of dwellings were inspected at least once and treatments given as required. Treatments at Business Premises and Farms are charged for, but private dwellings are treated free of cost.

A test baiting of 15% of all sewer manholes was made and in no cases was there any "take".

Snoke Abatement

One complaint was received during the year and an incinerator was provided to abate any possible nuisance.

Health Precautions

Eighteen enquiries were made in respect of persons returning from Holidays abroad. In all cases we were satisfied they were free from any infections.

SECTION VI

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Part 1 of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspector).

Premises	No. on Register	No. of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Proce- cutions
(i) Factories in which Sections 1.2.3.4. and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	-	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	41	10	1	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises).	4	2	-	-
Total	45	12	1	-

New Industries

An extension to the Salt Warehouse for the British Salt Ltd. was built during the year and a new maintenance Depot off Brooks Lane was opened by E.R.F. Ltd.

Complaints

Complaints were received of an emission of Salt Dust from two factories. In each instance an assurance was given that a new plant would be installed during 1972 to reduce the emission to a minimum.

2. Cases in which defects were found:

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Insp.	By H.M. Insp.	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2.)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3.)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-

OUTWORKERS

There are no outworkers registered with the Authority.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Insp.	By H.M. Insp.	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other Offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	3	3	-	-	-

Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act, 1963

The Act applies to 66 premises, all of which have been registered. A total of 174 persons are employed in these premises, 44 males and 130 females. 17 visits were made in connection with this Act.

SECTION VII

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) MILK

13 Dealers are registered in the district under the Milk and Dairies Regulations.

There are no dairy herds from which the milk is sold raw to the public.

The following tables show the results of tests on samples of milk taken by the County Council.

TABLE I

Type of Test	Taken by C. C.	
	Satis.	Unsatis.
1. Methylene Blue	27	-
2. Phosphatase	10	-
3. Turbidity	6	-

1. Measures the keeping quality of the milk.
2. Measures the efficiency of the Pasteurisation process.
3. Measures the efficiency of the Sterilising process.

(b) ICE-CREAM

No ice-cream is manufactured in the district and the only ice-cream sold is pre-wrapped. 5 samples were taken in the district and submitted to the Chester Public Health Laboratory. These were satisfactory and placed in Provisional Grade as follows:-

Provisional Grade 1 5

(c) MEAT

There are no slaughterhouses in the district.

Condemnation notes were issued in respect of 6 tins of ham and the contents of a deep freezer after a prolonged failure of power. Condemned foods at shops are collected and disposed of at the refuse tip.

Food Premises

The undermentioned food premises are in use in the Middlewich District.

Schedule of premises subject to Regs. 16 & 19 of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Complying with Reg. 16</u>	<u>Reg. 19 Applies</u>	<u>Complying with Reg. 19</u>
Butchers Shop	6	6	6	6
Bakehouses	3	3	3	3
Schools	5	5	5	5
Fish and Chip Shops	3	3	3	3
Grocery Shops	22	22	22	22
Chocolate and Sweets	6	6	-	-
Public Houses	15	15	-	-
Clubs and Licenced Bars	3	3	-	-
Greengrocers	4	4	-	-
Chemist Shops	3	3	-	-

These descriptions only indicate the main type of food sold in each shop.

Registered Under Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955

For retail sale of wrapped ice-cream	22
For retail sale of sausages, meat pies, etc...	15
Dairies registered under Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1959-60	1
Registered Milk Dealers	13

All bakehouses and food premises are regularly inspected and are well maintained.

OTHER FOODS

The County Council Weights and Measures Inspectors took samples of 34 varied articles of food in the Middlewich Urban District during 1971. All the samples were up to standard.

J. E. O'MALLEY,

Medical Officer of Health.

F. COSTELLO,

Public Health Inspector.

